

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO SENATE AND HOUSE RULES 506 AND 602

**SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Senate Rule 506 is amended as follows:

**506. COMMITTEE PROCEDURES.**

1. In all cases, a majority of the committee constitutes a quorum, except that fifty percent of the membership of a committee with an even number of members constitutes a quorum.
2. The committee chairman or the member who is duly appointed to act as chairman shall ensure that minutes of committee hearings and deliberations are kept. The minutes must be arranged by the bills or resolutions discussed, designated by number. The minutes must contain a short phrase explaining what the bill or resolution relates to and the names and addresses of all persons who appear in relation to the bill or resolution and a brief summary of their remarks. The minutes also must include a record of recommended amendments to the bill or resolution, and a recorded roll call vote of the committee members on each bill or resolution that is referred out of the committee and, in the case of divided reports, on each report.
3. Upon adjournment of the legislative session, the minutes must be delivered to the Legislative Council and must be retained by the Council for a period of not less than one year.

**SECTION 2. AMENDMENT.** Senate Rule 602 is amended as follows:

**602. DIVIDED COMMITTEE REPORT.**

1. In case all the members of any committee required or entitled to report on any subject referred to them cannot agree upon any report, the majority and minority may each make a report as provided by this rule; and all reports, if decorous in language, and respectful to the Senate, must be entered at length in the journal and must identify who voted for each report, and must be announced by the Secretary as provided in Senate Rule 601.

2. A minority report must be signed by at least two members of the committee, or three members of the Appropriations Committee, who voted against the majority report. A recorded roll call vote must be taken on the majority report and each minority report.
3. The majority report is either the report signed by the largest number of committee members or the report signed by the committee chairman if that report is one of two or more reports signed by the largest and an equal number of members. The majority report must be placed on the calendar for consideration before consideration of any minority report. Minority reports must be placed on the calendar in order in accordance with the number of committee members signing the reports, with the report signed by the largest number of members being placed on the calendar first.
4. If more than one amendment is recommended by divided reports relating to a particular measure, the President shall direct that they be placed on the calendar in order in accordance with this rule.
5. The President shall also rule as to the effect of the adoption of the first report on each subsequent report.

**SECTION 3. AMENDMENT.** House Rule 506 is amended as follows:

**506. COMMITTEE PROCEDURES.**

1. In all cases, a majority of the committee constitutes a quorum.
2. The committee chairman or the member who is duly appointed to act as chairman shall ensure that minutes of committee hearings and deliberations are kept. The minutes must be arranged by the bills or resolutions discussed, designated by number. The minutes must contain a short phrase explaining what the bill or resolution relates to and the names and addresses of all persons who appear in relation to the bill or resolution and a brief summary of their remarks. The minutes also must include a record of recommended amendments to the bill or resolution, and a recorded roll call vote of the committee members on each bill or resolution that is referred out of the committee and, in the case of divided reports, on each report.
3. Upon adjournment of the legislative session, the minutes must be delivered to the Legislative Council and must be retained by the Council for a period of not less than one year.

1       **SECTION 4. AMENDMENT.** House Rule 602 is amended as follows:

2       **602. DIVIDED COMMITTEE REPORT.**

- 3       1. In case all the members of any committee required or entitled to report on any  
4       subject referred to them cannot agree upon any report, the majority and minority  
5       may each make a report as provided by this rule; and all reports, if decorous in  
6       language, and respectful to the House, must be entered at length in the journal  
7       and must identify who voted for each report, and must be announced by the Chief  
8       Clerk as provided in House Rule 601.
- 9       2. A minority report must be signed by at least three members of the committee, or  
10      four members of the Appropriations Committee, who voted against the majority  
11      report. A recorded roll call vote must be taken on the majority report and each  
12      minority report.
- 13      3. The majority report is either the report signed by the largest number of committee  
14      members or the report signed by the committee chairman if that report is one of  
15      two or more reports signed by the largest and an equal number of members. The  
16      majority report must be placed on the calendar for consideration before  
17      consideration of any minority report. Minority reports must be placed on the  
18      calendar in order in accordance with the number of committee members signing  
19      the reports, with the report signed by the largest number of members being placed  
20      on the calendar first.
- 21      4. If more than one amendment is recommended by divided reports relating to a  
22      particular measure, the Speaker shall direct that they be placed on the calendar in  
23      order in accordance with this rule.
- 24      5. The Speaker shall also rule as to the effect of the adoption of the first report on  
25      each subsequent report.

**NOTE:** This proposed rules amendment is in response to a question on how to determine how committee members voted on majority and minority reports. The suggestion was to require a recorded roll call vote so the presiding officer can determine which report is the majority report and which report is the minority report, and who voted against the majority vote for purposes of complying with subsection 2 of Senate and House Rules 602. Senate and House Rules 506 are amended to ensure the minutes reflect the votes.